

REMARKS

Claim 3 was rejected by the Examiner as being indefinite under 35 USC §112 since claim 3 makes reference to "the coating" having no antecedent. To overcome this rejection the Examiner suggested that claim 3 be made dependent from claim 2 instead of claim 1 as originally submitted. Claim 3 has been so amended thus overcoming the rejection under 35 USC §112.

Claims 1-4, 6, 12, 14-15 and 17-19 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Crouch in view of Sussmann and Codell; Claims 7 and 10 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Crouch in view of Sussmann and Codell, and further in view of Zeller; Claim 8 was rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Crouch in view of Sussmann and Codell, and further in view of Bluege; Claim 13 was rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Crouch in view of Sussmann and Codell, and further in view of Grigoriev; and Claims 20-23 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Senda in view of Crouch in view of Sussmann and Codell.

Of these claims, claims 1, 12, 15, 17, 20 and 23 are each an independent claim. Accordingly the following discussion will center around these claims.

Claims 5, 9 and 16 were objected to by the Examiner as being allowable but for their dependency from a rejected claim.

In response to the rejections, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of objected to claim 5 and claim 5 has been cancelled. In doing so, claim 1 and all of the remaining claims dependent therefrom, namely claims 2-4 and 6-11, are each distinguishable from the Crouch, Sussmann and Codell references and thus each

of claims 1-4 and 6-11 are now allowable to the Applicant.

Independent claim 12 has been amended along the same line as was claim 1. Thus claim 12 is also distinguishable from the combination of the Crouch, Sussmann and Codell references, as are claims 13 and 14 which are dependent from claim 12, and thus each of claims 12-14 are now allowable to the Applicant.

Independent claim 20 has been amended along the same line as was claim 1. Thus claim 20 is also distinguishable from the combination of the Crouch, Sussmann and Codell references, as are claims 21 and 22 which are dependent from claim 12, and thus each of claims 20-22 are now allowable to the Applicant.

Each of independent claims 15 and 17 is a method claim and each has been amended to state that the step of directing the radiation is done at a Brewster's angle. This distinguishes each of claims 15 and 17, as well as each of the claims dependent from claim 17, namely claims 18-19, from the combination of the Crouch, Sussmann and Codell references and thus each of claims 15 and 17-19 are now allowable to the Applicant.

Independent claim 23 is a system claim and has been amended to state that the beamsplitter is positioned at a Brewster's angle to the radiation beam. This distinguishes claim 23 from the combination of the Crouch, Sussmann and Codell references and thus claim 23 is now allowable to the Applicant.

Additionally, each of the remaining objected to claims, namely 9 and 16 (claim 5 having been cancelled), no longer are dependent on a rejected claim.

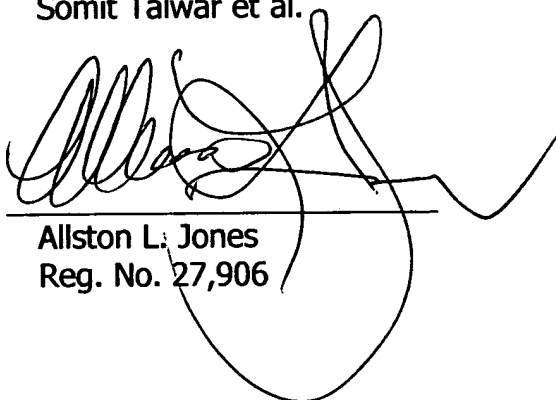
Therefore, for the above stated reasons, all of claims 1-4 and 6-23 as shown

above are patentably distinguishable from the cited references Crouch, Sussmann and Codell.

With respect to the inventor's name discrepancy between the unsigned Declaration filed with the application and the signed Declaration filed in response to the Notice of Missing Parts, the inclusion of the surname "Livshits" on the unsigned Declaration was inadvertent, inventor's name is Igor Landau as shown on the signed Declaration. The inventor's name was not changed subsequent to the filing of the application.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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